working under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund to cater to their health care needs.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal for a Group Treatment Insurance Scheme for treatment of beedi workers under consideration. However, under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, beedi workers are eligible for reimbursement of expenditure upto Rs. One lakh in case of heart diseases and kidney transplant. Financial assistance is also provided for cases of tuberculosis, cancer, mental diseases, leprosy etc. Further, all identified beedi workers who are not members of the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Scheme are insured under the Group Insurance Scheme of LIC for an assured sum of Rs. 10,000/-in case of natural death and Rs. 25,000/- in case death due to accident or in case of permanent disability. The beedi workers are not required to pay the premium which is paid from the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund.

Employees under EPF and GPF

3909. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees covered under Employees Provident Fund and General Provident Fund Scheme in the country. State-wise;

(b) Whether Government arc aware that many employers including State/Union Government Undertakings arc not depositing EPF/GPF contribution and not even the employees, contribution deducted from their salaries; and

(c) if so, the number of cases filed against erring employers under Section 406 and 409 of IPC and how many of them have been punished till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The number of employees covered under the EPF Scheme state-wise/region-wise as on 31.03.2001 arc as follows:—

Sl No.	Region	Employees Covered
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20,68,371
2.	Bihar	8,63,833
3.	Delhi	13,61,081
4.	Gujarat	17,72,263
5.	Haryana	8,73,656
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1,53,414
7.	Karnataka	16,63,056
8.	Kerala	7,16,882
9.	Madhya Pradesh	16,30,528
10.	Maharashtra	40,79,697
11.	North Eastern Region	2.13,135
12.	Orissa	5,92,032
13.	Punjab	16,08,539
14.	Rajasthan	7,89,325
15.	Tamil Nadu	41,89,462
16.	Uttar Pradcsn	13,28,926
17.	West Bengal	23,96,447
	TOTAL:	2,63,00,647

Under the GPF rules, government employees are compulsorily enrolled as members of GPF on completion of one year of services in Government.

(b) and (c) Under the provisions of Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act. 1952 action under section 406/409 of Indian Penal Code is taken in case of empoloyer's failure to deposit the employees' share. As on 31.03.2001, 7,723 FIRs have been filed. During the year 2000-01 conviction was awarded in 17 cases.